

DIA review(s)
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WHITE HOUSE SUPPORT STAFF

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Date: January 23, 1974
Item No.: WH #1

DIRECTOR: WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

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SUBJECT: CAMBODIA--THE MILITARY SITUATION

Cambodian Army units conducting mopping up operations three to five miles north and northwest of Phnom Penh's Pochentong airport on January 22 encountered stiffening Khmer Communist resistance. The Communists are now using 105-mm howitzers in this sector. Government forces have made little progress but claim to have captured significant quantities of materiel. US defense attaches report that army units composed of new recruits performed surprisingly well during the recent fighting. Combat along Phnom Penh's southern defense line continues at a relatively low level.

In anticipation of increased pressure, government forces in several areas have pulled back north of the Prek Thnaot River to more defensible terrain.